



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**REGION 10**  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98101

Reply To  
Attn Of: ORC-158

Honorable Brian Cladoosby,  
Chairman  
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community  
P.O. Box 817  
La Conner, WA 98257

RE: Application for Treatment in the Same Manner as a State (TAS) for  
Sections 303(c) and 401 of the Clean Water Act

Dear Chairman Cladoosby:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 (EPA) has received the application by the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community of Washington for "treatment in the same manner as a State" under Section 518(e) of the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA). The purpose of the application is to establish the Swinomish Tribe's eligibility to adopt, review, and revise water quality standards pursuant to Section 303(c) of the CWA, and to certify that discharges comply with those water quality standards, pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA, for all surface waters of the Swinomish Reservation.

EPA's initial review finds that the application is complete for purposes of further review. Therefore, we are sending the complete application to the Governor of the State of Washington to see if the State has any comments on the Swinomish Tribe's assertion of authority to regulate surface water quality on the Swinomish Reservation. EPA also is placing an announcement in the Channeltown Press and the Skagit Valley Herald to notify interested parties of this request to the State for comments, which advise interested parties to direct any comments on the Tribes' authority to the Washington Department of Ecology. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the letter to the Governor and the Public Notice. We will keep you and your staff informed of comments received

If you have any questions, you can contact me at (206) 553-1234, or you can contact Sally Brough at (206) 553-1295 or Rich McAllister at (206) 553-8203.

Sincerely,

Ron Kreizenbeck  
Deputy Regional Administrator

cc: Alix Foster